

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 00032 040839Z

16

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAM-01 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 OMB-01 /084 W

----- 059494

R 040658Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3600

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 032

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, VN, VS, SW

SUBJECT: VIETNAM AND SWEDEN

REF: STATE 256859 AND A-9137

1. I AM PROVIDING PRIME MINISTER PALME AND FOREIGN
MINISTER ANDERSSON WITH COPIES OF EMBASSY SAIGON'S PAPER
ON THE DRV/PRG MOTIVATION FOR VIOLATING THE PARIS AGREEMENT.
I AM ALSO BRINGING TO THEIR ATTENTION THE
ECONOMIST ARTICLE OF DECEMBER 28, HEADED "DEATH BY A
THOUSAND CUTS -- THE BALANCE OF THE WAR PEOPLE LIKE TO
IGNORE IS TILTING TOWARDS NORTH VIETNAM BECAUSE NORTH
VIETNAM'S SUPPORTERS ARE STILL GIVING IT WHAT IT WANTS."

2. SOME IN THE GOS WILL APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION OF DRV
RESPONSIBILITY FOR RENEWED AGGRESSION IN SOUTH VIETNAM
AND FOR A MILITARY BUILD-UP PREPARATORY TO A MAJOR PUSH.
THESE ARE THE UNEASY, THOUGH THUS FAR SILENT MEMBERS OF
THE POLITICAL ESTABLISHMENT WHO WOULD AGREE WITH THE
ECONOMIST SUGGESTION THAT THIEU IS PREFERABLE TO A POLIT-BURO
AND IS SO CONSIDERED BY THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE MAJORITY.

3. MILITANT HARD-CORE DRV BACKERS IN SWEDEN, OF COURSE,
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PAGE 02 STOCKH 00032 040839Z

KNOW FULL WELL THAT THE STRUGGLE IN SOUTH VIETNAM IS

BETWEEN DRV AGGRESSION AND A THIEU-LED, OBSTINATE DEFENSE.
THESE ARE PEOPLE WHO THINK THE "RIGHT" CASE JUSTIFIES
AGGRESSIVE ACTIONS.

4. PALME IS A PRAGMATIST WHO WILL CONTINUE TO TALK IN
FAVOR OF THE DRV/PRG SO LONG AS HE JUDGES THEM CERTAIN
WINNERS. NO ARGUMENT WOULD SO EFFECTIVELY INFLUENCE GOS
CONDUCT TOWARD THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH VIETNAM AS THE
BEGINNING OF AWARENESS THAT SOUTH VIETNAM WILL NOT BE
OVERCOME BY EITHER MILITARY OR POLITICAL MEANS. THERE
IS NOT MUCH ON THE HORIZON AT THE MOMENT TO STIMULATE
SUCH AN AWARENESS AND FOR THAT REASON, I BELIEVE WE CAN
ONLY RESTRAIN, BUT NOT TURN AROUND, SWEDISH POLICY.

STRAUSZ-HUPE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RECOGNITION, FOREIGN RELATIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STOCKH00032
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750004-0542
From: STOCKHOLM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750177/aaaacpys.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 256859, 75 AND A-9137
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <14 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VIETNAM AND SWEDEN
TAGS: PFOR, VN, VS, SW
To: SAIGON
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006